(12) INTERNATION APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 15 January 2004 (15.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/004504 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: 7/12, 17/08

A43B 7/08,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/IT2003/000130

(22) International Filing Date: 4 March 2003 (04.03.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: MI2002U 000344

2 July 2002 (02.07.2002) IT

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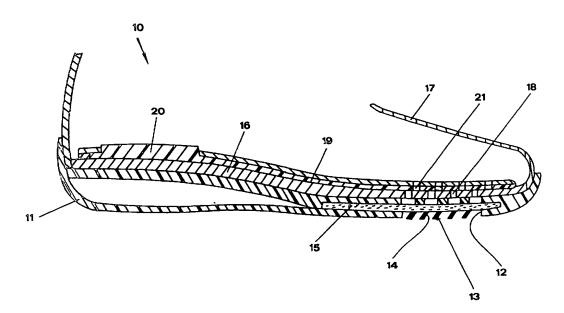
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- with amended claims

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: WATERPROOFED AND VENTILATED ITEM OF FOOTWEAR



(57) Abstract: An item of footwear is described which comprises in combination: an outsole (11) having in its forepart at least a vent opening (12) which is made through the thickness of said outsole (11), a grating-like element (13) which is set into said vent opening (12) and acts as a screen by separating and protecting the inside of the footwear from the ground which comes into contact with said outsole (11), a pliable sheet insert (15) made from a breathable and waterproofed material which is embedded into the outsole (11) and is positioned inside the outsole (11) so as to overlie said vent opening (12), an insole (16) made of a breathable and waterproofed material, and an upper (17) made of a breathable and waterproofed material.



in Cational Application No
PCT/IT 03/00130

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A43B7/08 A43B A43B7/12 A43B17/08 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) **A43B** IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) WPI Data, EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to daim No. WO 97 28711 A (GORE W L & ASS GMBH ; RAUCH 1.2 X MAX (DE)) 14 August 1997 (1997-08-14) page 6, line 1 -page 7, line 38; figures 1,3,6 US 2002/017036 A1 (BERGER CHRISTOPH ET X 1,3,6 AL) 14 February 2002 (2002-02-14) paragraphs '0041!,'0042!,'0048!,'0049!; figures 1A,1B,2,3 DE 299 11 499 U (SPANNRIT SCHUHKOMPONENTEN 7-10 GMBH) 13 January 2000 (2000-01-13) claims 1,3,9; figures EP 0 910 964 A (NOTTINGTON HOLDING BV) 1 Α 28 April 1999 (1999-04-28) paragraphs '0018!-'0021!; figures 1,2 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. X X Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 01/07/2003 23 June 2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer

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